have in drink. But you must bear; The heart's all[5].

[Exit.

SHAL. Be merry, master Bardolph;—and my little soldier there, be merry.

SIL. *Be merry, be merry, my wife has all*[6]*;*

[Singing.

" Readers, reade this thus : for preface, *praface,*

" Much good may it do you." &c.

So, Taylor, the Water-poet, in the title of a poem prefixed to his Praise of Hempseed: ** A preamble, preatrot, preagallop, preapace, orpreface: and *preface*, my masters, if your stomach serve." Decker, in his comedy of If this be not a good Play the Devil is in it, makes Shackle-soule, in the character of Friar Rush, tempt Ms brethren c* with choice of dishes :"

" To which *praface* : with blythe lookes sit vee."

I am still much in doubt whether there be such an Italian word as *prafaccia.* Baretti has it not, and it is more probable that we received it from the French : *praface* being a colloquial abbreviation of the phrase.—" Bon prou leurface," i. e. * Much good may it do them.' See Cotgrave, in voce *Prou.*

To the instances produced by Dr. Farmer, I may add one more from Springes for Woodcocks, a collection of epigrams, 1606, Ep. 110:

66 *Praface,* quoth Fulvius, fill us t'other quart,[1]'

And another from Heywood's Epigrams:

** I came to be merry, wherewith merrily

" *Praface,* Have among you.'* &c.

Again, in Stowe's Chronicle, p. 528 : *' — the cardinall came in booted and spurred, all sodainly amongst them, and bade them *praface.'* STEEVENS.

So, in Nashe's Apologie for Pierce Penniless, 1593 : ee *A* preface to courteous minds,—as much as to say *praface,* much good may it do you ! would it were better for you ! "

Sir T. Hanmer (as an ingenious friend observes to me.) was mistaken in supposing *prafaccia* a *regular* Italian word ; the proper expression being *buon pro viiaccia,* much good may it do you ! *Prafaccia* is, however, as I*am informed, a *cant* term used by the common people in Italy, though it is not inserted in the best Italian dictionaries. MALONE.

[5] — The heart's all.] That is, the intention with which the entertainment is given. The humour consists in making Davy act as master of the house. JOHNSON.

[6] — *my wife's as all;*] Old copy—has all. Dr. Farmer very

Acutely observes, that we should read—my wife's *as* all, i. e. as all women are. This affords a natural introduction to what follows.

STEEVENS.